THE BARONY OF DRAGONSSPINE

Meiassis Dragon

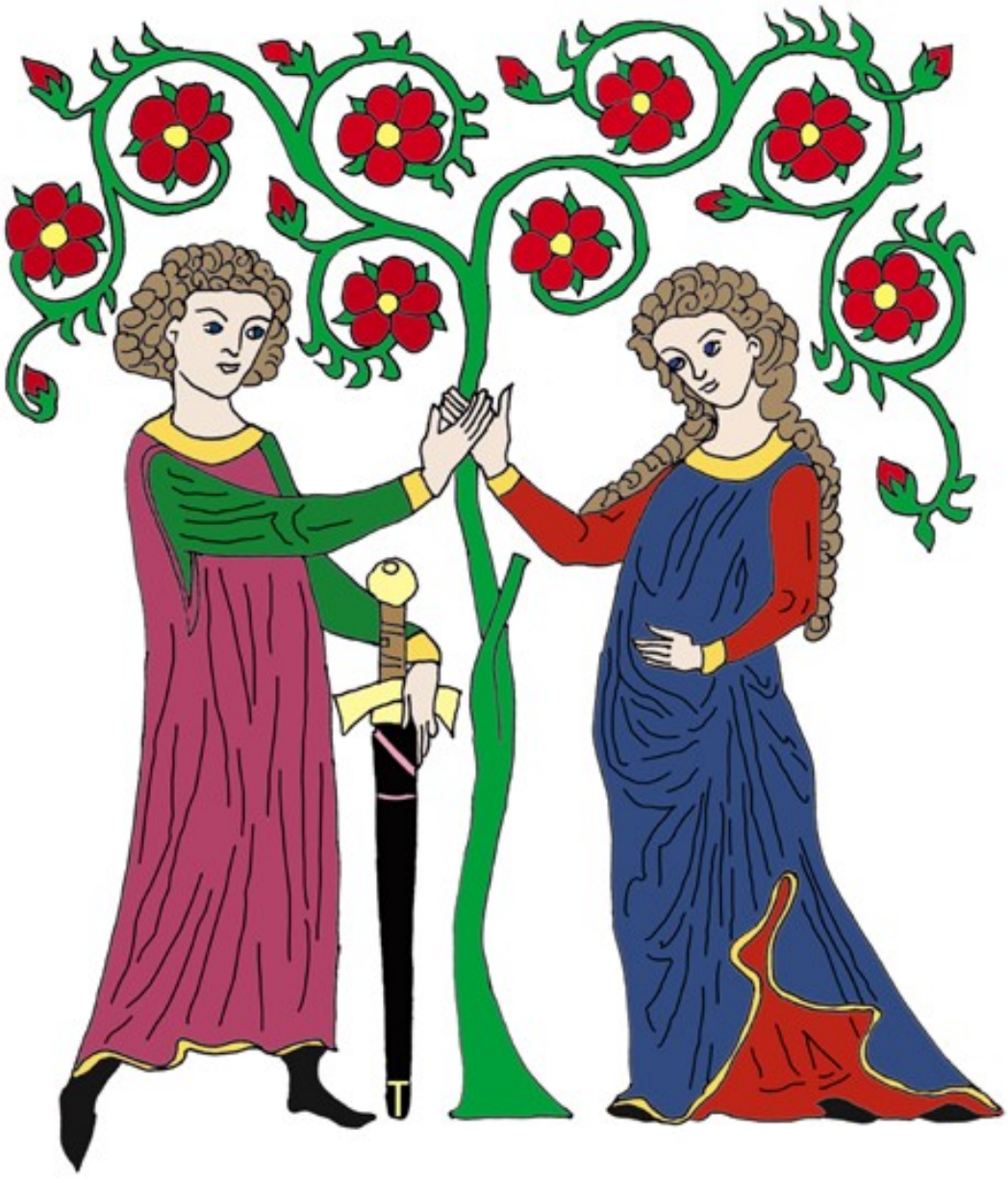
May

A.S XLIX

Inside…

- Dirty Dozen is back—do have yours?
- We are taking resumes for several jobs in the Barony—they don't pay well—but we don't do this for the money do we?
- The Vikings are coming—explore the world through the eyes of Egil in part one of our saga.

Spring has Sprung!



Herald Report

herald@dragonsspine.org

Greeting Dragonspinians!

As the Scalene Herald, I have tons of several bins and boxes of name and device books for research. I plan to have a "let's all dig into the books so we can come up with a unique name/ device/badge" party on the patio and environs this summer. I will post this in the Meiassis Dragon, on the Dragonsspine group, inviting one and all to attend.

This month I sadly have no submission news to pass on to all of you. The Castle Herald met with an unfortunate need for a personal 'time out' and will be late with the April submissions. He plans to combine the April items with the ones he receives in May, producing a large 'double issue' early in May. I will keep you informed as I learn more.

The current status of submissions is:

Gerald Beckett – Device – being decided – Laurel

Isabeau de Bernac – Name – in comment – Laurel

Alikina fili Elpini – Name & Device – in comment – Laurel

April Submissions awaiting Castle Herald

Abigail Mac Naught - Name

Adelaisa Bernois - Badge

Antoine de Vallier – Name & Device

Arngerdr Hergierrdottir - Name

Date Chotaro Motohisa – Name & Device

Ellisif Hergierrdottir - Name

Gianni Sangermano - Name & Device

Hergierr Edvinson - Name

Until Next Time, In Service, I am,

Duchess Selene of the Sky, Scalene Pursuivant

Here is the list of books and pamphlets available:

Name books

Old Norse Names (2 copies)

Withycombe- English Christian Names

Oxford Dictionary of English Surnames (2 copies)

Welsh Place-names

Welsh Surnames

Dictionary of English and Welsh Surnames – Bardsley

English Surnames (Photocopy) – Bardsley

Surnames of Ireland

Irish Names

Irish Place Names

Scottish Christian Names

Surnames of Scotland – Black

Our Italian Surnames

Japanese Names - O'Neill

Japanese Personal Names

Digest of Muslim Names

Muslim Feminine Names from Period Sources – Da'ud

Heraldry books

A Pictorial Dictionary of Heraldry (2 copies)

Basic Heraldry – Friar

Papworth's Ordinary of British Armorials

Boutell's Heraldry

An Heraldic Alphabet – Brooke-Little

Complete Guide to Heraldry – Fox-Davies

Scots Heraldry

Dictionary of Heraldry – Friar

Complete Book of Heraldry

Loose/Photocopy Books

Tartans of the Clans and Families of Scotland

Index of Given Names in Withycombe's

Dutch Women's Names before 1100

List of Alternate SCA Titles

Tangwystyl's Linguistics for Heralds

File of Problem Names

Guide to Submissions Heraldry in the Outlands

File of English Name articles

French Names from Two Thirteenth Century Chronicles

Flemish Names from Bruges

Franko-Norman Names

German Names

Hungarian Names

Irish Names

Italian Names

Jewish Names

Languedoc Names

Mongolian Names

Perugia Names

Pictish Names

Polish Names

Roman Names

Romany/Gypsy Names

Scottish Names

Swedish Names

Welsh Names

English Christian names-Withycombe

English Surnames-Charles Waverly

Islandic & Heathed names-Haukur Porgersson

Precedents of Master Diud ibn Auda

Paul Goldschmidt's Dictonary of Russian Personal Names

Seneschal's Missive

seneschal@dragonsspine.org

Greetings unto the populace of Dragonsspine!

So much is happening as we approach the warmth of summer.

First due to Uncle Sam relocating our Baron and Baroness, Herbert and Keterlyn find it necessary to step down. Anyone interested in placing their names in contention for the position of Baron and Baroness please send letters of intent by June 3rd, 2014 to the following:

Their Highness's (Majesties's) at
heirs@outlands.org,

if after Coronation May 10th

crown@outlands.org

Sir Lavan at seneschal@outlands.org

TE's Herbert & Keterlyn at

baron@dragonsspine.org

baroness@dragonsspine.org

Master Duncan at
seneschal@dragonsspine.org

Polling will be held July 6th at Woodstone park from 9 AM until 1 PM Their Majesties will be in attendance so please come out and let your voice be heard as to your preference for our Next B&B. After all the letters are in we will announce those who have asked to be included in the polling and the times and places for Q&A's.

Investiture will be at our Champions event on Aug. 2nd, this year being held at the Homestead Ranch Regional park in Peyton.

After many years of service to the Archery program here in Dragonsspine Countess Eorann needs to step down. We thank her for her long years of service and steadfast support to Dragonsspine archers. If you are interested in this position please send letters to:

TE's Herbert & Keterlyn at

baron@dragonsspine.org
baroness@dragonsspine.org

Master Duncan at
seneschal@dragonsspine.org

Countess Eorann at
archery@dragonsspine.org

Herr Sixtus Goetz has found it necessary to step down as your Knight Marshall. We also wish to thank Sixtus for his service to the Barony and the fighters of Dragonsspine. If you are interested in helping to train the fighters of Dragonsspine please send letters to:

TE's Herbert & Keterlyn at
baron@dragonsspine.org

baroness@dragonsspine.org

Master Duncan at

seneschal@dragonsspine.org

Herr Sixtus at marshal@dragonsspine.org

And lastly my warrant is up and so I am looking for someone who would like to step into the Seneschal position. I feel that it is necessary to begin this process so that whoever is chosen as the next Baron and Baroness can begin to forge a working relationship with whoever will be the seneschal during their reign. If you are interested in this position please send letters to:

TE's Herbert & Keterlyn at
baron@dragonsspine.org

baroness@dragonsspine.org

Master Duncan at

seneschal@dragonsspine.org

These offices need to have letters in so please use the same deadline of June 3rd for letters of interest for all the officer positions.

In Service,

Duncan

Siege cooking at Crossroads

What has 2 legs, 4 legs, no legs? Do want to find out? Join the siege cooking competition!!

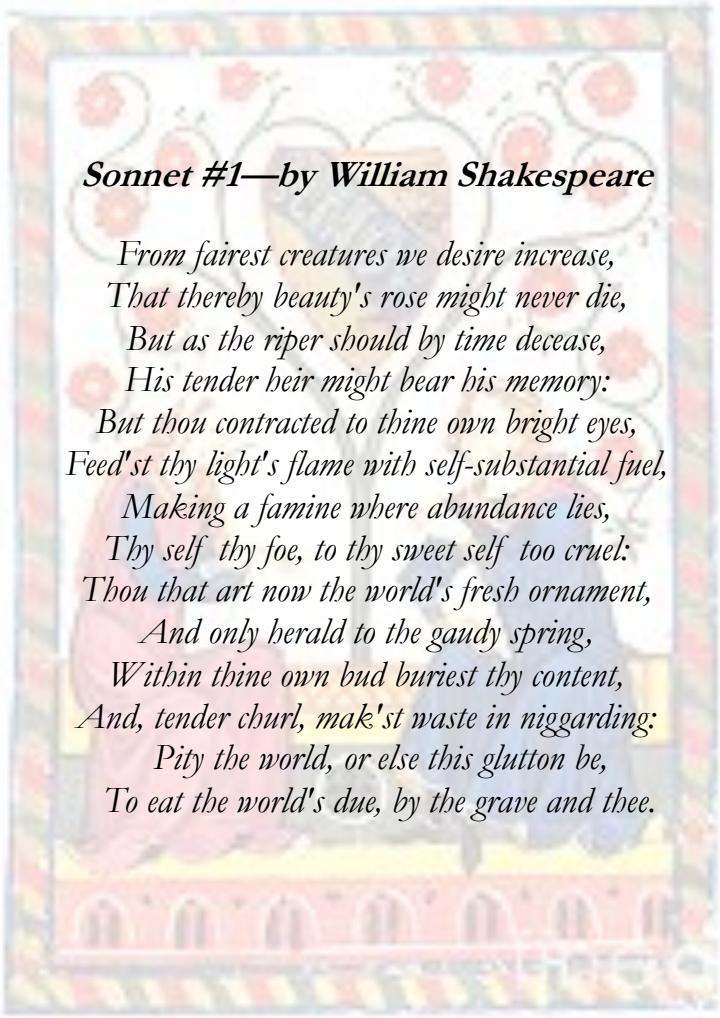
Siege cooking is going to be at Grand Outlandish this year! Saturday morning, 9:00 AM at Town Hall be there to pick up ingredients.

There will be 5 teams so sign up early! See facebook for more details.

There can be 3 people to a team, 2 cooks and 1 scullery on your team, or 1 cook and 2 sculleries. Each team will be given an extra ingredient for having a newcomer on their team. Each team can bring 1 liquid, plus all the water you can use.

Duke Garick recognized…again…finally!

Raise your glass in congratulations to His Grace, Duke Garick von Köpke, Master of the Pelican, KSCA! This weekend at Outlands Kingdom A&S, to the great glee of the hall which erupted with cheers of joy, he was invited to contemplate elevation to the Order of the Laurel, for his fine work in, well, just about everything. On May 10, at Outlands Coronation in the Barony of Unser Hafen, His Grace will have the opportunity to respond to Their Majesties' invitation. It will be a day of great joy and celebration, all around!


Sonnet #1—by William Shakespeare
From fairest creatures we desire increase,
That thereby beauty's rose might never die,
But as the riper should by time decease,
His tender heir might bear his memory:
But thou contracted to thine own bright eyes,
Feed'st thy light's flame with self-substantial fuel,
Making a famine where abundance lies,
Thy self thy foe, to thy sweet self too cruel:
Thou that art now the world's fresh ornament,
And only herald to the gaudy spring,
Within thine own bud buriest thy content,
And, tender churl, mak'st waste in niggarding:
Pity the world, or else this glutton be,
To eat the world's due, by the grave and thee.

Oye! Oye! My Lords and Ladies pray attend:
A bardic competition will be held at CROSSROADS XVI 2014 " THE CRUSADES on Saturday the 24th day of May at 9 pm A.S. XLVIII around the bonfire.

Competitors for the overall Champion of Crossroads are required to participate in this competition. Are others are most heartily and cheerfully invited to compete as well. Please join us to share a tale, song, poem or joke.

More information regarding Crossroads Camping Event can be found at http://www.hawkshollow.org
Or Facebook search ***CROSSROADS XVI (2014) THE CRUSADES***

Upcoming Events

3 May May Day—Bryngalou

3 May Feast of Fools—Dragonsspine

10 May Coronation—Unser Hafen

23-26 May Crossroads XVI—Hawks Hollow

22-26 May Grand Outlandish—al-Barran

31 May Three Kingdom Fighter Practice—Plattefordham

6-8 June Enduro—Caer Galen

13-14 June KW Heralds and Scribes—Caid

13-22 June Lillies War—Calontir

21 June Nock on Wood—al-Barran

21 June Brewer's Feast—Bofharrach

22 June Caerthe Champions Challenge—Caerthe

27-29 June Aarquelle Highlands Fencing Camp—Aarquelle Highlands (Salida)

27-29 June Gladiator—Windkeep

3-6 July Warders of the Western Gate—Fontaine

3-6 July Caer Galen Defender

17-21 July Lonely Mountain—Drygestan

18-20 July Fighters Folly—Cearthe

25-27 July Here there will be Dragons—Plattefordham

Around the Knowne World

Come join the Barony Dragonsspine as we choose our champions for the next year and invest our next Baron and Baroness. It will be a day of great celebration, fighting, companionship and fun in the park.

Bring water, sunscreen and a picnic lunch. The closest food is 10 miles away. The is no electricity on site. There is limited potable water.

Activities of the day include:

10 am Morning Court, Investiture
12 pm List open
1230 pm Heavy
2 pm Fencing
4 pm Evening Court

Archery will be held at a later date to be announced. No Glass!!! No Fires!!! Site is DRY!!

August 2, 2014

Homestead Ranch Park

16444 Gollihar Road

Peyton, CO 80831

Event steward: Kiara Loftus (Therese Hofheins) kiara.loftus@yahoo.com and Gianni Sangermano (Jason Sangermano) giannisangermano@yahoo.com

Site fee: $5 adult (16 and older); $0 child (15 and younger); $5 non-member adult surcharge

Please make checks payable to "SCA- Dragonsspine"

Site is dry!! No Glass!!! No Fires!!!

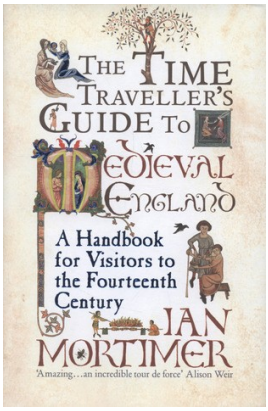
Directions:

Take best route to I-25 toward Colorado Springs, CO. Take the Woodmen Road exit 149, turn East on Woodmen Road. Follow Woodman for about 13 miles to Highway 24. Turn North (left) on Highway 24. Follow Highway 24 for 5 miles to Elbert Road. Turn left onto Elbert Road. Follow Elbert Road for 5 miles, make a sharp right onto Sweet Road. Stay on Sweet Road for about 2 miles. Turn left onto Gollihar Road. The park will be at the end of Gollihar Road.

The Time Traveller's Guide to Medieval England—by Ian Mortimer

Review by Adelaisa Bernois

When I first picked up Time Travellers I was intrigued by the thought of a non-fiction history book written in the style of a Lonely Planet guide. One of the biggest challenges that I find is understanding the medieval mind. What we do helps with understanding what it might have been like to stand before your enemy on the field of battle, trusting in yourself and your God to prevail for the day, but a further understanding can be challenging. The kind of first person narrative is not something that one see's often in a non-fiction book and was the main reason for my interest in this book.

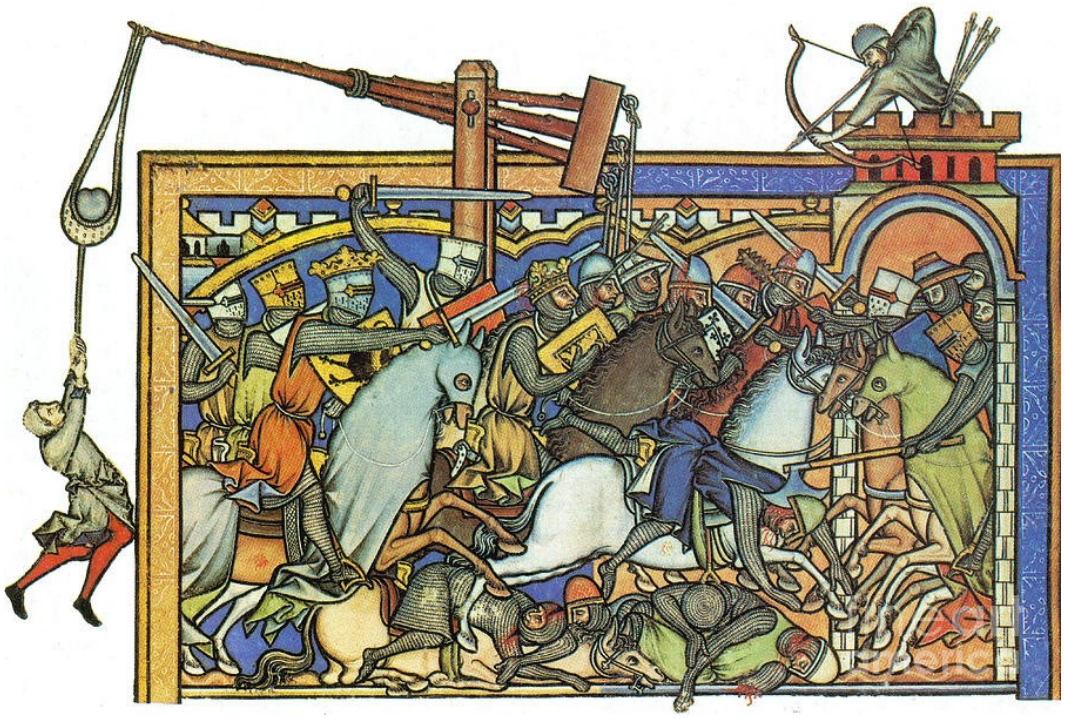

THE TIME TRAVELLER'S GUIDE TO MEDIEVAL ENGLAND
A Handbook for Visitors to the Fourteenth Century
IAN MORTIMER
'Amazing…an incredible tour de force' Alison Weir

Mortimer's book is well written and provides that look at the medieval life with clarity and attention to detail. At times, however, he seems unusually fascinated with certain aspects of medieval life. Moritmer seems to have strong sense of the odor of the time—stating that the stench would assault the senses as filth was everywhere.

Mortimer spends most of his time talking about the roles of men in medieval society. This is disappointing because approximately 50% of the population in England during the 14th century were women, and yet Mortimer only devotes about 15% of his book to women. He talks about the innkeeper—but never the role of his wife. Mortimer spends a goodly section on the role of the church, but fails to mention the sisters, abbesses, and anchoresses of the time.

The biggest problem that I see with Mortimer's book are the complete and utter fallacies that exist in his section on clothing. Mortimer makes multiple conflicting statements even within his own chapter. For example, he states that buttons did not exist before the 1360's, and yet shows his own documentation cleary shows evidence of buttons that he dates to 1305. He further states that with the advent of close fitting garments came corsets for men, in order to keep their obese frames looking svelte in their tight doublets.

In short, as an insight into the medieval mind, Mortimer's book is good. There are several little anecdotes that makes the time come alive for the reader. The challenge I have in recommending this book is that even though I am not a scholar on the time, I can find many, many, issues with the facts presented in the book. Because of this, I cannot recommend this a a piece of non-fiction. As a work of fiction, however, or with further verification of the facts, this book could be quite excellent.



Their Royal Highnesses, Walrick and Cecilia, call Their Outlanders to WAR!

This year, Their Royal Highnesses will attend Lilies and Pennsic and They wish that Outlanders make the sojourn with Them to the eastern lands of Calontir and Æthelmearc to fight under the banner of the Stag and bring home tales of honor and camaraderie!

Duchess Madigan is the land coordinator for Lilies and will be sending out missives regarding Lilies shortly. More information on Lilies War can be found here:
http://www.lilieswar.org/
http://www.lilieswar.org/.

Their Royal Highnesses are in search for an individual who will help organize travelers and act as land coordinator for Pennsic. Please contact me (thlmaimuna @ gmail.com) if you are interested in serving in this capacity. Sir Asad is the on-site camp coordinator. More information on Pennsic War can be found here:
http://www.pennsicwar.org/penn43/
http://www.pennsicwar.org/penn43/.

In service to the Crown and Heirs, I remain
Mistress Maimuna
Head-of-House, TRHs Walrick & Cecilia

Greetings Mighty Outlanders, I have recently changed the way the deputies for the Scribal Office are classified. Instead of a north and south deputy there will now be a Backscroll Deputy to help anyone who has not received an award for their scroll and a Partially Completed Scroll Deputy who will help with scrolls in need of Calligraphy or Illumination and will encourage the creation of "blank" scrolls.

You may have seen posts already from these two hard working gentles. Lady Perryn Coelbrant is the new Back Scroll Deputy. THL Avram Ibn Gabirol is the new Partially Completed Scroll deputy. I am excited about these changes and the Outlands will be richer for the work and dedication of these two individuals.

In Service,
Anna MacTaggart

IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED AN AWARD AND DO NOT HAVE A SCROLL PLEASE CONTACT LADY PERRYN

Basic Clothing for Middle Eastern Wear

By Lady Lêofsige Ô Caoimh (Lyssa)

The clothing of the Middle East is rich in variety and so diverse that any attempt to cover all aspects of the various cultures is impossible in this small format. Clothing and various restrictions on clothing vary with time and location. This is a brief overview of the dress that will achieve a suitably Middle Eastern Appearance. Further research is recommended to tailor a look to a culture and time period of your choice. The one thing that seems to hold from culture to culture and across time periods is the theory of breathable layers for warmth and cooling and protection from the elements.

Underpants: Often illustrated as a loose drawstring garment that is roughly knee length, underpants were worn by both men and women. The length varies but can range from mid-thigh to the ankle. Some traditions of the Prophet recommend that pants should reach to somewhere between knee and ankle. Fabrics probably were plant fibers such as cotton (grown in Egypt), linen and hemp, although silk may also have been used.

Pants (Chalvar): Pants were worn for protection and for style by both genders. The Quran's traditions indicate that it was more proper for preserving a woman's virtue to wear pants than a skirt. The most common pants are very full drawstring pants that extend to the ankles. Among the variations are full to the knee, closer fitting pants, and pants which were long enough to drape to the ankles while being tied at the knee. For the men, pants took on these variations as well. Look to Folkware's Chalvar Pattern for a starting point. Fabrics ranged from cotton (grown in Egypt), linen and other plant fibers to animal/insect fibers including silk, wool and camel hair.

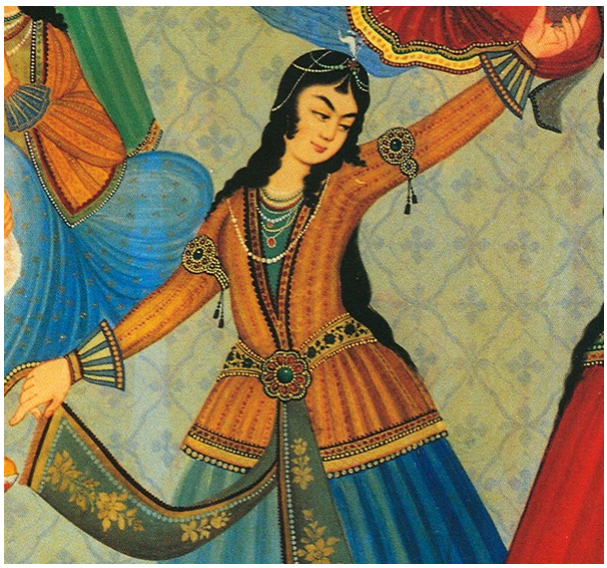
Shirt/Shift (thawb): The next layer would commonly have been a shirt for men and a shift or long shirt for women.

Various patterns indicate a garment similar to the St. Louis shirt of 13th century England or a tunic style. One difference comes in the neckline. While tunics and English shirts tended toward no closures, some illustrations seem to indicate that some versions of the Middle Eastern shirt might have a narrower neck opening and a slit upon one shoulder closed with a button. The shirt length could range from mid-thigh to ankle length. Women's shirts would have been longer, but not reaching the great lengths seen in European clothing of the time.

Middle Eastern Clothing—Continued...

Additional Layers of shirts could also be worn with the sleeve lengths and widths varying to show off the various under layers. Often bands of embroidery called Tiraz Bands will decorate the sleeves. Tiraz Bands are usually an Arabic inscription with some decoration. Themes of these bands include entreaties to Allah to guard and protect the wearer, his family, or the Caliph although latter versions appear to have become simple decoration.

Begin with a basic tunic and experiment with what works to achieve the look of the culture you wish to achieve.



Fabrics ranged from cotton (grown in Egypt), linen and other plant fibers to animal/insect fibers including silk, wool, camel hair and furs. It is noted that the Mameluke sultans in Egypt changed to white garments (fibers unspecified) in May and to woolen garments (colors unspecified) in November.

Coats/Jackets/Yelek (ghawazee dress): As layers of shirts increased, it became common in Persian cultures to add layers which boasted various fastenings, hanging sleeves, and various displays of wealth. Persian coats often boasted buttons and hanging sleeves for men and women. One version of the Persian coat, the Yelek, resembles coats of the 19th century ghawazee people. The ghawazee suffer in historical context from the same reputation that gypsies received in Europe, but their coats have become somet hing of a standard in the SCA.

The primary difference between a yelek and a ghawazee coat is in the cut of the neckline. The coats of the 19th century are cut below the breasts to allow for display of more under-layers of clothing while the yelek is cut above the breasts for more modesty. The yelek is also a bit more full in the skirt as are its contemporary Persian coats.

The Persian coats are often open from hem to hip at front and back to allow for more comfort while riding. Other coat styles were the Tartar coat, the Islamic coat, and the Turkish coat. They may also be open from hem to hip at the sides. A number of patterns are available for the ghawazee coat, but care should be taken to measure the neckline to above the breasts for a proper look. The Turkish coat is available from Folkware Patterns and is due to be reissued by their new owner, Lark Books. The fibers included cotton, wool, silk, fur, and boasted rich texture and weaving styles.

Waist sashes/belts: Both men and women wore fabric sashes wrapped around their waists. These are often many yards long enabling them to be wrapped multiple times. Over the waist sash or perhaps instead, a belt might have been worn. Mameluke's were prohibited by their religion from wearing gold and jewels on any garment but their belts. As a result their belts are often highly decorated. Belts were functional, holding pouches, daggers, swords, et cetera, as well as being highly fashionable.

One variation, the coin belt, is perhaps based more in 19th and 20th century tradition than medieval tradition. The historical basis for coin belts in Egypt appears to be a tradition where the bride to be dances through the streets to collect enough money for her dower. An added attraction to the placement of coins on the belt for safety was the ability to attract more attention with the jingling of the coins. Belts are available in many import stores, from dance supply houses, or can be crafted. If using a fabric sash, measure your waist and multiple by the number of times you wish to wrap around, then add 36" - 54" to allow for a knot and sufficient drape from the knot. The sash can be as wide as you like, but 20-30 inches wide should be sufficient.

Aba: The Aba, also known as an abaya, thobe, bisht or mishlah, is an over-garment that goes over everything. It is worn by both men and women. It is a simple rectangle which opens down the front. To create an aba, measure from your shoulder to the desired length (at least calf length) and double that measurement to determine the length of fabric. The width of fabric will be from one wrist to the other across your back. You may also use shorter sleeves but don't go much shorter than the mid-bicep. If you can't find fabric of sufficient width, you can piece narrower fabrics together to achieve the width. Extant garments are often formed from 3 widths of cloth or more. The sides can be sewn from the hem to 10 or so

Middle Eastern Clothing—Continued...

inches below the fold, or left open. Hem the front edge and you're done. The aba can be highly decorated or very plain. It can include fastenings at the front or be left open.

Burnoose: An all encompassing cloak usually with an attached hood. It resembles a full circle cloak and a reasonable imitation can be made from the McCall's hooded cloak pattern if additional fabric is added to increase the fullness. Folkwear also carries a pattern which may not be available currently, but should be reissued by Lark Books soon. For warmth, use wool or other warm fabrics.

Head coverings: The turban is the classic head covering of the Middle East. Its width, length, and form of wrapping varied greatly, but a basic turban can be made from 15 yards of 20" wide fabric. It should be noted that while some women did wear turbans, throughout much of the Middle East women were forbidden to wear them.

While the turban is the classic head covering of the Middle East, other head coverings are also found. Among them, the fez, (also worn with a turban), the kufiyyah or tagia (skull cap) (worn with many head coverings including the turban and fez), the ghutra, a large diagonally-folded cotton square worn over a kufiyyah and held in place by an igaal (igal, agal) (a double-coiled cord circlet). For women, a shayla - a scarf of black gauzy fabric wrapped around the head and secured by a variety of head circlets, hats or jewelry, can be worn. In addition, many cultures required women to wear veils. Veils take many forms from simply covering the hair, to portions of the face to the all-encompassing hejab, which covered them from head to foot. Don't be discouraged. The variety of headdresses available in numerous cultures should provide ample opportunity for self-expression.

Footwear: A common type of footwear is the Khuff boot which is described as a long leather stocking over whicha shoe would be worn. Also worn would be a variety of shoes and slippers including Madan slipper/shoes,

Turkish boots, and Muza riding boots. For more information on footwear, see "Footwear of the Middle Ages".

References

Arab Painting, Richard Ettinghausen, Macmillan, London 1977.

"An Introduction to Arms and Warfare in Classical Islam," by David Nicolle, in Islamic Arms and Armor.

Islam Stoffe aus Ä gyptischen Grä bern by Ernst Kü hnel, 1927: Berlin Verlag Ernst Wasmuth.

Nauigations in Turkie, Nicholas de Nicolet .

Cut My Cote, Dorothy K. Burnham, Textile Department, Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto.

Early Islamic Textiles, Clive Rogers Editor, Rogers & Podmore, Brighton 1983.

Islamiske vå ben i dansk privateje (Islamic Arms and Armour from private Danish collections), Udstilling på Davids

Samling, Kø benhaven 1982.

Le Costume * Coupes et Formes, de L'Antiquité aux Temps Modernes, Max Tilke, É ditions Albert Morancé , Paris 1967.

This is a wonderful book, full of detailed photographs of real garments. Unfortunately, most of them are out of period.

The Modern Egyptians by Edward Lane, 1860 (facsimilie from Dover).

A Glossary of the Construction, Decoration and Use of Arms and Armor, by George C. Stone.

"Notes on Islamic Clothing", Cariadoc's Miscellany, David Friedman and Elizabeth Cook, 1988, 1990, 1992. Portions of which appeared in a Creative Anachronist Islamic pamphlet.

http://www.arab.net/ - Arab Net, the online resource for the Arab world in the Middle East & North Africa, 8/28/98.

http://kwaziwai.cc.columbia.edu/cu/libraries/indiv/area/MiddleEast/women.html - Columbia University - Area Studies,

Middle East Studies, Women In The Middle East, 8/28/98.

Dirty Dozen at Dragonsspine Investiture...

Greetings!

I am pleased to sponsor a Dirty
Dozen Donation Derby (aka 4D) at Dragonsspine Champions and Investiture in three months time, August 2, 2014. The 4D was created in the Principality of Tir Righ, Kingdom of An Tir, as a way to encourage the creation of largess through friendly competition. As a way to celebrate and welcome our next Coronet and fill their largess needs in advance of Battlemoor, I thought our people might be inspired as well.

Basic Rules

All entrants must create 12 items that are suitable for largesse and based on a theme chosen by the entrant. Here are some suggestions to get you started but don't feel limited. Your chosen theme should inspire you to create as your artistic whim directs.

12 needle books

12 hats from the same or different periods

12 items from a specific time period or country

12 children's toys

12 pair of socks (note: 12 socks would be 6 pair)

Entry is open to everyone. Participants from other groups are encouraged and welcome. Entrants may be individuals who provide 12 items or several people may form a team to make 12 items.

Requirements

All entries must be tagged and ready to be gifted the day of the competition. Tags should include your name, your group, what the item is, and the materials (wool, cotton, etc).

Items that can cause concern due to allergies or travel safety (food, scented items, liquids, etc) are not allowed.

Items do not need to be documentable and no documentation is required. This isn't an Arts and Sciences competition. It's a way to share our skills and talents to encourage and inspire others while supporting our nobles.

Items should not have specific heraldry on them though use of heraldic elements and colors is not restricted.

Please consider the needs of small items and package so they may be transported and presented safely.

Judging and Prizes

Items will be judged by populace choice. Each entrant's display will have a cup placed next to it and anyone may put a provided token into the accompanying cup to denote their choice.

The entrant with the most tokens in their cup at the end of the day chooses one item from any one of the other entries as a prize. Each entrant then chooses from the remaining entries according to how many tokens they received (largest to smallest number). Each entry may only be chosen once as a prize. If several people form a team, one representative of the team will choose one item as a prize for their entire team.

The remaining 11 items from each entry will be split between Their Excellencies Dragonsspine and Their Majesties.

Feeling ambitious? Over the Top prizes will be available for any individual creating 6 dozens or more. Team entrants are not eligible. Individuals only. If you're trying for OTT, please let me know so we can be prepared.

Registration is not required but if you are planning to participate drop me a note so I can be sure we have sufficient space for display. The display will be manned during the day but there won't be space available to sit with your entry. Please contact me with questions. More information on 4D and inspiration from other derbies may be found in the 4D group: https://www.facebook.com/groups/520009888022124/. Additional inspiration is available on Pinterest: http://www.pinterest.com/leofsige/dirty-dozen-donation-derby-ideas/. Please share this with other groups/lists as appropriate.

In Service,
THL Lêofsige Õ Caoimh known as Lyssa
Barony of Dragonsspine

Egil's Saga—Part One...continued

Egil's Saga is an Icelandic saga. The oldest transcript (a fragment) dates back to 1240 AD. The saga is centered on the life of Egill Skallagrímsson, also known as Egil Skallagrimsson, an Icelandic farmer, viking and skald. It is generally referred to as Egla by Icelandic scholars. The saga is the only source of information on the exploits of Egill whose life is not historically recorded. Stylistic and other similarities between Egil's Saga and Heimskringla have led many scholars to believe that they were the work of the same author, Snorri Sturluson. Join us, with this, our first part of the saga.

Chapter 1 - Of Kveldulf and his sons.

There was a man named Ulf, son of Bjalf, and Hallbera, daughter of Ulf the fearless; she was sister of Hallbjorn Half-giant in Hrafnista, and he the father of Kettle Hæing. Ulf was a man so tall and strong that none could match him, and in his youth he roved the seas as a freebooter. In fellowship with him was one Kari of Berdla, a man of renown for strength and daring; he was a Berserk. Ulf and he had one common purse, and were the dearest friends.

But when they gave up freebooting, Kari went to his estate at Berdla, being a man of great wealth. Three children had Kari, one son named Eyvind Lambi, another Aulvir Hnuf, and a daughter Salbjorg, who was a most beautiful woman of a noble spirit. Her did Ulf take to wife, and then he too went to his estates. Wealthy he was both in lands and chattels; he took baron's rank as his forefathers had done, and became a great man. It was told of Ulf that he was a great householder; it was his wont to rise up early, and then go round among his labourers or where his smiths were, and to overlook his stalk and fields, and at times he would talk with such as needed his counsel, and good counsel he could give in all things, for he was very wise. But everyday as evening drew on he became sullen, so that few could come to speak with him. He was an evening sleeper, and it was commonly said that he was very shape strong. He was called Kveldulf.

Kveldulf and his wife had two sons, the elder was named Thorolf, the younger Grim; these, when they grew up, were both tall men and strong, as was their father. But Thorolf was most comely as well as doughty, favoring his mother's kin; very cheery was he, liberal, impetuous in everything, a good trader, winning the hearts of all men. Grim was swarthy, ill-favoured, like his father both in face and mind; he became a good man of business; skilful was he in wood and iron, an excellent smith. In the winter he often went to the herring fishing, and with him many house-carles.

But when Thorolf was twenty years old, then he made him ready to go a harrying. Kveldulf gave him a long-ship, and Kari of Berdla's sons, Eyvind and Aulvir, resolved to go on that voyage, taking a large force and another long-ship; and they roved the seas in the summer, and got them wealth, and had a large booty to divide. For several summers they were out roving, but stayed at home in winter with their fathers. Thorolf brought home many costly things, and took them to his father and mother; thus they were well -to-do both for possessions and honour. Kveldulf was now well stricken in years, and his sons were grown men.

Chapter 2 - Of Aulvir Hnuf.

Audbjorn was then king over the Firthfolk; there was an earl of his named Hroald, whose son was Thorir. Atli the Slim was then an earl, he dwelt at Gaula; he had sons - Hallstein, Holmstein, and Herstein; and a daughter, Solveig the Fair. It happened

one autumn that much people were gathered at Gaula for a sacrificial feast, then saw Aulvir Hnuf Solveig and courted her; he afterwards asked her to wife. But the earl thought him an unequal match and would not give her. Whereupon Aulvir composed many love-songs, and thought so much of Solveig that he left freebooting, but Thorolf and Eyvind Lambi kept it on.

Chapter 3 - The beginning of the rule of Harold Fairhair.

Harold, son of Halfdan Swarthy, was heir after his father. He had bound himself by this vow, not to let his hair be cut or combed till he were sole king over
Norway, wherefore he was called Harold Shockhead. So first he warred with the kings nearest to him and conquered them, as is told at length elsewhere. Then he got possession of Upland; thence he went northwards to Throndheim, and had many battles there before he became absolute over all the Thronds. After that he purposed to go north to Naumdale to attack the brothers Herlaug and Hrollaug, kings of Naumdale. But when these brothers heard of his coming, Herlaug with twelve men entered the sepulchral mound which they had caused to be made (they were three winters at the making), and the mound then was closed after them. But king Hrollaug sank from royalty to earldom, giving up his kingdom and becoming a vassal of Harold. So Harold gained the Naumdalesmen and Halogaland, and he set rulers over his realm there. Then went he southwards with a fleet to Mæra and Raumsdale. But Solvi Bandy-legs, Hunthiof's son, escaped thence, and going to king Arnvid, in South Mæra, he asked help, with these words:

'Though this danger now touches us, before long the same will come to you; for Harold, as I ween, will hasten hither when he has enthralled and oppressed after his will all in North Mæra and Raumsdale. Then will the same need be upon you as was upon us, to guard your wealth and liberty, and to try everyone from whom you may hope for aid. And I now offer myself with my forces against this tyranny and wrong. But, if you make the other choice, you must do as the Naumdalesmen have done, and go of your own will into slavery, and become Harold's thralls. My father though it victory to die a king with honour rather than become in his old age another king's subject. Thou, as I judge, wilt think the same, and so will others who have any high spirit and claim to be men of valour.'

By such persuasion king Arnvid was determined to gather his forces and defend his land. He and Solvi made a league, and sent messengers to Audbjorn, king of the Firthfolk, that he should come and help them. Audbjorn, after counsel taken with friends, consented, and bade cut the war-arrow and send the war-summons throughout his realm, with word to his nobles that they should join him.

But when the king's messengers came to Kveldulf and told him their errand, and that the king would have Kveldulf come to him with all his house-carles, then answered he:

'It is my duty to the king to take the field with him if he have to defend his own land, and there be harrying against the Firthfolk; but this I deem clean beyond my duty, to go north to Mæra and defend their land. Briefly ye may say when ye meet your king that Kveldulf will sit at home during this rush to war, nor will he gather forces nor leave his home to fight with Harold Shockhead. For I think that he has a whole load of good-fortune where our king has not a handful.'

The messengers went back to the king, and told him how their errand had sped; but Kveldulf sat at home on his estates.

Chapter 4 - Battle of king Harold and Audbjorn.

King Audbjorn went with his forces northwards to Mæra; there he joined king Arnvid and Solvi Bandy-legs, and altogether they had a large host. King Harold also had come from the north with his forces, and the armies met inside Solskel. There was fought a great battle, with much slaughter in either host. Of the Mærian forces fell the kings Arnvid and Audbjorn, but Solvi escaped, and afterwards became a great sea-rover, and wrought much scathe on Harold's kingdom, and was nicknamed Bandy-legs. On Harold's side fell two earls, Asgaut and Asbjorn, and two sons of earl Hacon, Grjotgard and Herlaug, and many other great men. After this Harold subdued South Mæra. Vemund Audbjorn's brother still retained the Firthfolk, being made king. It was now autumn, and king Harold was advised not to go south in autumn-tide. So he set earl Rognvald over North and South Mæra and Raumsdale, and kept a numerous force about himself.

That same autumn the sons of Atli set on Aulvir Hnuf at his home, and would fain have slain him. They had such a force that Aulvir could not withstand them, but fled for his life. Going northwards to Mæra, he there found Harold, and submitted to him, and went north with the king to Throndheim, and he became most friendly with him, and remained with him for a

Egil's Saga—Part One..the conclusion

long time thereafter, and was made a skald.

In the winter following earl Rognvald went the inner way by the Eid-sea southwards to the Firths. Having news by spies of the movements of king Vemund, he came by night to Naust-dale, where Vemund was at a banquet, and, surrounding the house, burnt within it the king and ninety men. After that Karl of Berdla came to earl Rognvald with a long-ship fully manned, and they two went north to Mæra. Rognvald took the ships that had belonged to Vemund and all the chattels he could get. Kari of Berdla then went north to king Harold at Throndheim, and became his man.

Next spring king Harold went southwards along the coast with a fleet, and subdued firths and fells, and arranged for men of his own to rule them. Earl Hroald he set over the Firthfolk. King Harold was very careful, when he had gotten new peoples under his power, about barons and rich landowners, and all those whom he suspected of being at all likely to raise rebellion. Every such man he treated in one of two ways: he either made him become his liege-man, or go abroad; or (as a third choice) suffer yet harder conditions, some even losing life or limb. Harold claimed as his own through every district all patrimonies, and all land tilled or untilled, likewise all seas and freshwater lakes. All landowners were to be his tenants, as also all that worked in the forest, salt-burners, hunters and fishers by land and sea, all these owed him duty. But many fled abroad from this tyranny, and much waste land was then colonized far and wide, both eastwards in Jamtaland and Helsingjaland, and also the West lands, the Southern isles, Dublin in Ireland, Caithness in Scotland, and Shetland. And in that time Iceland was found.

Chapter 5 - The king's message to Kveldulf.

King Harold lay with his fleet in the Firths, whence he sent messengers round the land to such as had not come to him, but with whom he thought he had business. The messengers came to Kveldulf, and were well received. They set forth their errand, said that the king would have Kveldulf come to him.

'He has heard,' said they, 'that you are a man of renown and high family. You will get from him terms of great honour, for the king is very keen on this, to have with him such as he hears are men of mark for strength and bravery.'

Kveldulf answered that he was an old man, not fit for war or to be out in warships. 'I will now,' said he, 'sit at home and leave serving kings.'

Upon this the messengers said, 'Then let your son go to the king; he is a tall man and a likely warrior. The king will make you a baron,' said they to Grim, 'if you will serve him.'

'I will be made baron under none,' said Grim, 'while my father lives; he, while he lives, shall be my liege-lord.'

The messengers went away, and when they came to the king told him all that Kveldulf had said before them. Whereat the king looked sullen, but he spoke little; these men, he said, were proud, or what were they aiming at? Aulvir Hnuf was standing near, and he bade the king not be wroth. 'I will go,' said he, 'to Kveldulf; and he will consent to come to you, as soon as he knows that you think it a matter of moment.'

So Aulvir went to Kveldulf and told him that the king was wroth, and it would not go well unless one of the two, father or son, came to the king; he said, too, that he would get them great honour from the king if they would but pay homage. Further he told them at length, as was true, that the king was liberal to his men both in money and in honours.

Kveldulf said, 'My foreboding is that I and my sons shall get no luck from this king: and I will not go to him. But if Thorolf returns this summer, he will be easily won to this journey, as also to be made the king's man. Say you this to the king, that I will be his friend, and will keep to his friendship all who heed my words; I will also hold the same rule and authority from his hand that I held before from the former king, if he will that it continue so still, and I will see how I and the king agree.'

Then Aulvir went back and told the king that Kveldulf would send him his son, and he (said Aulvir) would suit better; but he was not then at home. The king let the matter rest. In the summer he went inland to Sogn, but in autumn made ready to go northwards to Throndheim.

Join us next time when we continue Egil's Saga.

Exeter Book Riddle—#3

Sometimes my Lord corners me;
the He imprisons all that I am
under fertile fields - He frustrates me,
condemns me in my might to darkness,
casts me into a cave where my warden,
earth,sits on my back.
I cannot break out
of that dungeon, but I shake halls
and houses; the gabled homes of men
tremble and totter; walls quake,
then overhang. Air floats above earth,
and the face of the ocean seems still
until I burst out from my cramped cell
at my Lord's bidding, He who in anger
buried me before, so shackled me that I
could not escape my Guardian, my
Guide.

Sometimes I swoop to whip up
waves, rouse the water, drive the flint-
grey rollers to the shore.
Spumming crests crash
against the cliff, dark precipice looming
over deep water; a second tide,
a sombre flood, follows the first;
together they fret against the sheer face,
the rocky coast. Then the ship is filled
with the yells of sailors;
the cliffs quietly
abide the ocean's froth and fury,
lashing waves, racing rollers
that smash against stone.
The ship must face
a savage battle, a bitter struggle,
if the sea so buffets it and its cargo
if souls that it is no longer under
control
but, fighting for life, rides foaming
on the spines of breakers.
There men see
the terror I must obey when I
bluster
on my way. Who shall restrain it?

At times I rush through the dark clouds
that ride me, churn the sea into a frenzy,
then afterwards let the waters subside.
When one cloud collides with another,
edge against sharp edge, the din
of destruction, a mighty noise, echoes
above the dwellings of men; dark bodies,
hastening, breathe fire overhead,
flashing lightning; thunderous crashes
shake the sky, then growl darkly.
The clouds do combat, dark drops
fall, rustling rain from their wombs.
A fear-tide flows in the hearts of men,
a growing terror - strongholds succumb
to dread - when that ghastly troop goes
on the rampage, and shrithing evil spirits,
spurting flames, shoot sharp weapons.
A fool is unafraid of the death-spears,
but for all that he will die
if the true Lord lets fly the arrow,
a whistling weapon, straight through rain
from the whirlwind above. Few men
survive if they are struck by lightning.
I am the origin of all that strife,
when I rush through the
concourse of clouds,
surge forward with great strength, and fly
over the face of the water. Troops on high
clash noisily; then afterwards,
under cover of night, I sink to earth,
and carry off some burden on my back,
renewed once more by my Lord's power.
I am a mighty servant: sometimes
I fight, sometimes wait under the earth;
at times I swoop and sink under water,
at times whip up waves from above;
sometimes I stir up trouble
amongst scudding clouds; swift and
savage,
I travel widely. Tell me my name,
and Who it is rouses me from my rest,
or Who restrains me when I remain
silent.

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- Phalen Adelwolfe
- Collin

Rapier Guard:

- Lord Anton du Vallier, Captain
- Doña Alexandria Morgan
- Lord Conall Mac an Druaidh
- Veronica Francesco

Archery Guard:

- Countess Eórann O'Connor, Captain
- THL Lêofsige Ô Caoimh (aka Lyssa)
- Sander von Zeitz

Ladies-in-Waiting:

- Lady Jeanette du Vallier,
  Head Lady in Waiting
- THL Bronwen of Hindscroft
- Lady Mael Mide ingen Domnaill
- Viola
- Lady Gaia, Out of Kingdom North
- Lady Zaahira de la Sara,
  Out of Kingdom South

Baroness's Companions:

- Duchess Cainnleach Uliseir of Glendalough
- Mistress Mary of Lyonshall

Court Herald:

- THL Kiara Loftus

Who Are We?

The Barony of Dragonsspine is a local chapter of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA), within the Kingdom of the Outlands.

The SCA is a non-profit, educational organization dedicated to learning more about the Middle Ages through reenactment. There are SCA chapters worldwide and they hold regular feasts, tournaments, balls and battles.

The Outlands includes New Mexico, Colorado and parts of Texas and Wyoming.

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Trivial Trivia

1. Who invaded England during the reign of Alfred the Great, King of Wessex?
2. At the centre of a medieval castle, surrounded by walls and moats was a tall tower, what was it called?
3. Charlemagne was crowned Emperor of Rome in 800. What does his name mean?
4. Which came first Oxford or Cambridge university?
5. From where did the Vikings come?
6. Which famous tapestry tells the story of the Battle of Hastings?
7. In which building was Thomas a Becket murdered in 12th Century?
8. Which country was ruled by the Shoguns from 1192?
9. In the Middle Ages, every monastery had its Physick garden. What was grown there?
10. Which city did the Medicis rule?

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